In the Matter of

Tristram Horton, M.D.

In the State of Arizona.

Holder of License No. 45637

For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine

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INTERIM CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR PRACTICE RESTRICTION

Case No. MD-14-0169A

INTERIM CONSENT AGREEMENT

Tristram Horton, M.D. ("Respondent") elects to permanently waive any right to a hearing and appeal with respect to this Interim Consent Agreement for Practice Restriction and consents to the entry of this Order by the Arizona Medical Board ("Board").

INTERIM FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 2. Respondent is the holder of License No. 45637 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 3. The Board initiated case number MD-14-0169A after receiving a report that Respondent had been asked to refrain from practice during an investigation of possible medical incompetence at Banner Desert Medical Center and Cardon Children's Medical Center ("Medical Center").
- 4. The Medical Center also alleged that Respondent had been asked to submit to a drug screen, which was positive for cocaine metabolite. Based on the additional notification, Respondent was referred to the Board's Physician Health Program ("PHP") for assessment.

- 5. Respondent presented for a comprehensive evaluation on March 31, 2014 at the Santé Center for Healing and was discharged on April 3, 2014 with staff approval and the diagnosis of cocaine abuse of a single episode. Two years of monitoring was recommended.
- 6. On April 8, 2014, Respondent entered into an Interim Order for PHP Participation. On December 22, 2014 and December 30, 2014, Respondent submitted consecutive dilute urine drug screen tests. Based on these test results, PHP scheduled Respondent for a PEth test on January 6, 2015. Respondent did not take the PEth test. Respondent subsequently notified the PHP that he no longer wishes to be monitored as required by his Interim Order. PHP has provided Board staff with a report of non-compliance.
- 7. The aforementioned information was presented to the investigative staff, the medical consultant and the lead Board member. All reviewed the information and concur that the interim consent agreement to restrict Respondent's practice is appropriate.
- 8. The investigation into MD-14-0169A is pending and will return to the Board promptly upon completion for review and action.

INTERIM CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over Respondent.
- 2. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1405(C)(25) the Executive Director has authority to enter into a consent agreement when there is evidence of danger to the public health and safety.
- 3. Pursuant to A.A.C. R4-16-504, the Executive Director may enter into an interim consent agreement when there is evidence that a restriction is needed to mitigate imminent danger to the public's health and safety. Investigative staff, the Board's medical

consultant and the lead Board member have reviewed the case and concur that an interim consent agreement is appropriate.

INTERIM ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Respondent is prohibited from engaging in the practice of medicine in the State of Arizona as set forth in A.R.S. § 32-1401(22) until he applies to the Executive Director and receives permission to do so as stated in paragraph 3 below. Respondent may not request release from or modification of this Interim Consent Agreement for Practice Restriction until he has completed a PHP assessment and any recommendations that arise as a result of the assessment including evaluation and treatment.
- 2. If further monitoring is recommended, Respondent shall enroll in the Board's PHP within 5 days of the recommendation to do so. Respondent must comply with all the terms and conditions of PHP monitoring, including at a minimum the following:
 - Respondent shall not consume alcohol or any food or other substance containing poppy seeds or alcohol.
 - ii. Respondent shall not take any illegal drugs or mood altering medications.
 - iii. All prescriptions for controlled substances shall be approved by the PHP prior to being filled except in an Emergency. Controlled substances prescribed and filled in an emergency shall be reported to the PHP within 48 hours. Respondent shall take no Medication unless the Primary Care Physician ("PCP") or other health care provider to whom the PCP refers Respondent prescribes and the PHP approves the Medication. Respondent shall not self-prescribe any Medication. "Medication" means a prescription-only drug, controlled substance, and over-the counter preparation, other than plain aspirin, plain ibuprofen, and plain acetaminophen. Respondent shall

submit to random biological fluid, hair and nail testing to ensure compliance with PHP.

- iv. Respondent shall provide the PHP in writing with one telephone number that shall be used to contact Respondent on a 24 hour per day/seven day per week basis to submit to biological fluid, hair and nail testing to ensure compliance with PHP. For the purposes of this section, telephonic notice shall be deemed given at the time a message to appear is left at the contact telephone number provided by Respondent. Respondent authorizes any person or organization conducting tests on the collected samples to provide testing results to the PHP. Respondent shall comply with all requirements for biological fluid, hair and nail collection. Respondent shall pay for all costs for the testing.
- v. Respondent shall provide the PHP with written notice of any plans to travel out of state.
- vi. Respondent shall successfully complete a PHP approved alcohol/drug awareness education class with hours to be directed by PHP.
- vii. Respondent must provide full consent for the PHP to discuss the Respondent's case with the Respondent's PCP or any other health care providers to ensure compliance with PHP.
- viii. The relationship between the Respondent and the PHP is a direct relationship. Respondent shall not use an attorney or other intermediary to communicate with the PHP on participation and compliance issues.
- ix. Respondent shall be responsible for all costs, including PHP costs associated with participating in PHP at the time service is rendered, or within 30 days of each invoice sent to the Respondent. An initial deposit of two

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months PHP fees is due upon entering the program. Failure to pay either the initial PHP deposit or monthly fees 60 days after invoicing will be reported to the Board by the PHP and may result in disciplinary action up to and including revocation.

Respondent shall immediately provide a copy of this Interim Consent Agreement to all employers, hospitals and free standing surgery centers where Respondent currently has or in the future gains employment of privileges. Within 30 days of the date of this Interim Consent Agreement Respondent shall provide the PHP with a signed statement of compliance with this notification requirement. Respondent is further required to notify, in writing, all employers, hospitals and free standing surgery centers where Respondent currently has or in the future gains employment or privileges of a chemical dependency relapse or violation of this Interim Consent Agreement. In the event Respondent resides or practices as a physician in a state other than Arizona, Respondent shall participate in the rehabilitation program sponsored by that state's medical licensing authority or medical society. Respondent shall cause the monitoring state's program to provide written quarterly reports to the PHP regarding Respondent's attendance, participation, and monitoring. The monitoring state's program and Respondent shall immediately notify the PHP if Respondent: a) is non-

xii. The PHP shall immediately notify the Board if Respondent: a) is non-

tests; and e) is required to undergo any additional treatment.

compliant with any aspect of the monitoring requirements; b) relapses; c)

tests positive for controlled substances; d) has low specific gravity urine drug

test(s), missed and/or late urine drug tests, or otherwise rejected urine drug

compliant with any aspect of the monitoring requirements or this Interim Consent Agreement; b) relapses; c) tests positive for controlled substances; d) has low specific gravity urine drug test(s), missed and/or late urine drug tests, or otherwise rejected urine drug tests; and e) is required to undergo any additional treatment.

- 3. Once all of the terms and conditions of this Interim Consent Agreement have been met, Respondent may request, in writing, release and/or modification of this Interim Consent Agreement. The Executive Director, in consultation with and agreement of the Lead Board Member and the Chief Medical Consultant, has the discretion to determine whether it is appropriate to release Respondent from this Interim Consent Agreement.
- 4. The Board retains jurisdiction and may initiate new action based upon any violation of this Interim Consent Agreement, including, but not limited to, summarily suspending Respondent's license.
- 4. Because this is an Interim Consent Agreement and not a final decision by the Board regarding the pending investigation, it is subject to further consideration by the Board. Once the investigation is complete, it will be promptly provided to the Board for its review and appropriate action.
- 5. This Interim Consent Agreement shall be effective on the date signed by the Board's Executive Director.

RECITALS

Respondent understands and agrees that:

1. The Board, through its Executive Director, may adopt this Interim Consent Agreement, or any part thereof, pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1405(C)(25) and A.A.C. R4-16-504.

- 2. Respondent has read and understands this Interim Consent Agreement as set forth herein, and has had the opportunity to discuss this Interim Consent Agreement with an attorney or has waived the opportunity to discuss this Interim Consent Agreement with an attorney. Respondent voluntarily enters into this Interim Consent Agreement and by doing so agrees to abide by all of its terms and conditions.
- 3. By entering into this Interim Consent Agreement, Respondent freely and voluntarily relinquishes all rights to an administrative hearing on the matters set forth herein, as well as all rights of rehearing, review, reconsideration, appeal, judicial review or any other administrative and/or judicial action, concerning the matters related to the Interim Consent Agreement.
- 4. Respondent understands that this Interim Consent Agreement does not constitute a dismissal or resolution of this matter or any matters that may be currently pending before the Board and does not constitute any waiver, express or implied, of the Board's statutory authority or jurisdiction regarding this or any other pending or future investigations, actions, or proceedings. Respondent also understands that acceptance of this Interim Consent Agreement does not preclude any other agency, subdivision, or officer of this State from instituting civil or criminal proceedings with respect to the conduct that is the subject of this Interim Consent Agreement. Respondent further does not relinquish his rights to an administrative hearing, rehearing, review, reconsideration, judicial review or any other administrative and/or judicial action, concerning the matters related to a final disposition of this matter, unless he affirmatively does so as part of the final resolution of this matter.

- 5. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that upon signing this Interim Consent Agreement and returning it to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke his acceptance of this Interim Consent Agreement or make any modifications to it. Any modification of this original document is ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the parties in writing.
- 6. Respondent understands that this Interim Consent Agreement shall not become effective unless and until it is signed by the Board's Executive Director.
- 7. Respondent understands and agrees that if the Board's Executive Director does not adopt this Interim Consent Agreement, he will not assert in any future proceedings that the Board's consideration of this Interim Consent Agreement constitutes bias, prejudice, prejudgment, or other similar defense.
- 8. Respondent understands that this Interim Consent Agreement is a public record that may be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the Board, and that it shall be reported as required by law to the National Practitioner Data Bank.
- 9. Respondent understands that this Interim Consent Agreement does not alleviate his responsibility to comply with the applicable license-renewal statutes and rules. If this Interim Consent Agreement remains in effect at the time Respondent's allopathic medical license comes up for renewal, he must renew his license if Respondent wishes to retain his license. If Respondent elects not to renew his license as prescribed by statute and rule, Respondent's license will not expire but rather, by operation of law (A.R.S. § 32-3202), become suspended until the Board takes final action in this matter. Once the Board takes final action, in order for Respondent to be licensed in the future, he must

1	submit a new application for licensure and meet all of the requirements set forth in the
2	statutes and rules at that time.
3	10. Respondent understands that any violation of this Interim Consen
4	Agreement constitutes unprofessional conduct under A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(r) ("[v]iolating a
5	formal order, probation, consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the
6	board or its executive director under this chapter").
7 8	DATED: 1 26 2015
9	Tristrana Horton M.D.
10	DATED this 36 day of January, 2015.
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12	ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD
	By takes & Mc So Le Patricia E. McSorley
13	Patricia E. McSorley Acting Interim Executive Director
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15	EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing e-mailed
16	this day of January, 2015 to:
17	Tristram Horton, M.D.
18	Address of Record
19	Robert Milligan, Esq. Address of Record
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21	Greenberg and Sucher, M.D. Address of Record
22	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed
23	this 2) this day of day
24	Arizona Medical Board 9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road
25	Scottsdale, AZ 85258